

The District 3 Slate

May 2001

County Supervisor Pam Slater

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-- Supervisor Pam Slater



County Supervisor
Pam Slater

Dear friends:

Two stories in this edition of *The District 3 Slate* touch on how volunteers can make a difference in people's lives.

We have an incredible number of people who volunteer across the County of San Diego - people who answer your questions in our libraries, who help out in our parks and who help our deputies make the streets safer.

The county's advisory committees, made up of volunteers, counsel the Board of Supervisors and county staff on issues ranging from science and technology to children and at-risk families.

I believe there is a reawakening of the volunteer spirit, a recognition that civic contributions benefit both the community and the individual.

I encourage you to take a step and find out just how rewarding it can be to volunteer.

Pam Slater

Taxpayers Association honors County with two "Watchdog" awards for efficient use of funds

Recognizing the County's efforts to streamline costs and spend taxpayers dollars wisely, the San Diego Taxpayers Association has given two of its 2001 "Watchdog" awards to the County of San Diego.

The County won the annual Grand Watchdog award for its Welfare to Work program, which has saved taxpayers more than \$800 million.

The County also won a Golden Watchdog award for its deferred & major maintenance program, by which the county prevents maintenance projects from costing more in the future.

"These awards recognize the hard work this Board of Supervisors has done in the past to put the County on stable financial ground," said Supervisor Pam

Slater.

"We've cut wasteful spending and the bureaucracy, focused on getting the job done and ensured that we have proper spending reserves," she noted.

In a news release announcing the awards, the Taxpayers Association characterized the county's Welfare to Work program as "innovative and aggressive" and credited the county's use of private service providers, such as Catholic Charities and Episcopal Community Services.

Regarding the deferred maintenance program, the association said that "the County may be the only public agency in the region that has eliminated its deferred maintenance and has allocated enough ongoing revenue to ensure public facilities

do not become maintenance deferred again."

The San Diego County Taxpayers Association is a private, non-partisan group.

"Our purpose is not only to influence public debate, but also to educate the public about how government spends our tax dollars," said Mary Ball, the SDCTA's president.

Get the latest with "Update"

Supervisor Pam Slater will be featured on a coming showing of "Update San Diego," a show presented on CTN, the County Television Network.

The show featuring Slater is divided into two segments. In the first, Slater talks with District Attorney Paul Pfingst about the the DNA analysis program that Pfingst has started.

In the second, Slater talks with CalTrans Director Gary Gallegos about the "Parkway Plan," which could ease traffic congestion on freeways without building any more roads.

"Update San Diego," airs **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m.** It airs on Time Warner 22, Cox 17 and Daniels 51/66 cable channels.

Garden dedicated in memory

Girl Scouts, friends and supporters gathered earlier this month at San Dieguito Park to honor the lives of Gail and Joseph Larson and their children.

The Larsons, with their children Amy and Eric, were killed in a tragic plane accident in 1999.

Gail Larson was known by Solana Beach residents as an active volunteer in local girl

scout activities.

To honor Larson's work with the Girl Scouts, several local scout troops and residents decided to create the Larson Garden.

The Larson Garden was officially dedicated on May 4th.

County Supervisor Pam Slater helped create the garden by contributing \$20,000 in

See Garden on back page ...

The staff of Supervisor Pam Slater

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Check out our web site! At www.co.san-diego.ca.us/cnty/bos/sup3

County teams with Humane Society to evaluate Animal Control

The Humane Society of the United States, the nation's largest animal protection organization, has been hired by the County of San Diego to perform an independent assessment of the county's animal control programs and facilities.

County Supervisor Pam Slater said the department faces a number of challenges in the coming months, such as the opening of a new central animal shelter and implementation of Pet Project 2000, which includes the goal of ending euthanasia of adoptable or treatable animals in San Diego County within five years.

Slater led the push to build a new central shelter and first proposed that the county work toward a "no-kill" policy in its animal control programs.

"Our Animal Control department already does a great job in many areas," Slater said. "But this independent review of our department will give us an

objective look at what we can do better."

The Humane Society will review all areas of animal care, control and sheltering.

The Department of Animal Control provides services for the county's unincorporated areas and the cities of San Diego, Santee, Del Mar, Solana Beach, Encinitas, Carlsbad, San Marcos, Poway and Escondido.

Nose to Nose:
Supervisor Pam Slater, center, greets a dog as the County commemorates "Adopt-A-Dog" month. Joining Slater, from left, are Animal Control officer Jennifer Green, Director Dr. Dena Mangiamale and Carrie Hoff.



Thank you, senior volunteers

They are one of the County's most valuable assets, but in many ways, their con-

"These people who selflessly volunteer make such a difference for our seniors,"



From left: Teresa Graves, Sharp HealthCare; Dee Larson, Family Services Association; Bill Bodry, Challenge Center; Sylvia Moran, Socorro Felix, St. Jude's Nutrition Program; Holly Richardson, CTN; Paul Neumeister, Volunteer of the Year, Poway Valley Senior Citizens Center; Sue Hathaway, St. Charles Parish.

tributions can not fully be measured.

Supervisor Pam Slater and other county officials gathered this month to thank the many volunteers who give of their time to help the county's Aging and Independence Services.

Slater said.

The Aging and Independence Services agency is the regional focal point for services to older adults. If you are interested in information about how you can volunteer, please contact the agency at 1-800-510-2020.

Garden:

"Community Project" funds.

"I believe it is very appropriate that this garden is being named for the Larson family," said Slater. "It is designed and planted with vibrant colors and lush landscaping - and the sign reads, 'Larson Garden - In Celebration of Life.' "

Slater praised four Girl Scout troops for their efforts to raise money for the garden: Troop 1251, led by Patty Robins, Troop 1078, led by Joseph and Jean Fenley, Troop 1046, led by Sue Varty, and Troop 1174, led by Barbara Taylor.

"This garden was planted to grow and prosper. The scouts come here for the very same purpose - to grow and prosper," Slater said.

"Gail, Joseph and their children would have appreciated that."

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